and the opening of the exit channel (3) is greater than or equal to 0.8.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the magnetic field is alternating and steady-state, and is created by means of a flat inductor (9).

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the magnetic field is created by means of an alternating current whose frequency is such that the ratio between the capillary length and the thickness of the magnetic skin in the metallic coating is greater than or equal to 3.

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that means of exerting pressure on the molten metal are used for maintaining the height of the meniscus in the exit channel.

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the means of electromagnetic pumping (16, 17) of the molten metal are used for maintaining the

height of the meniscus in the exit channel

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the object is a long and slender object with constant cross-section.

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

15.   (Amended) A device according to claim 12, characterized in that the magnetic field is alternating and steady-state, and the means for creating it include a flat inductor.

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

16.   (Amended) A device according to claim 12, characterized in that it comprises means for exerting pressure (2, 10) on the molten metal so as to maintain the height of the meniscus in the exit channel.

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

17.   (Amended) A device according to claim 12, characterized in that it comprises means for electromagnetic pumping (16, 17) of the molten so as to maintain the height of the meniscus in the exit channel.

R E M A R K S

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